

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05  
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01  
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04  
USIA-06 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07  
PA-01 PRS-01 NRC-05 /127 W

-----200952Z 022500 /10

R 200821Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4217

USMISSION OECD PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION MTN GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 1652

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG PARM SZ

SUBJ: SWISS CONCERN ABOUT US POLICY ON NUCLEAR FUEL - IEA

GOVERNING BOARD DINNER APR 25

1. SWISS (VON TSCHARNER, DIR, INTERNATIONAL ECONMIC (ENERGY) AFFAIRS, DEPT OF PUBLIC ECONOMY) HAVE EXPRESSED QTE SERIOUS CONCERN UNQTE TO POL/ECONS ABOUT EFFECT EVOLVING US POLICY ON NUCLEAR FUELS MAY HAVE ON THEIR ABILITY SUPPLY SWISS ENERGY REQUIREMENTS. THEY FEAR THAT HAVING SIGNED NPT AND PREPARED TO JOIN LONDON CLUB, RULES UNDER WHICH THEY FORMULATED THEIR POLICY MAY BE CHANGED BY UNILATERAL US ACTION, OR BY ACTIONS OF THOSE WHO ALREADY HAVE OR ARE DEVELOPING NUCLEAR REPROCESSING FACILITIES. THEY KNOW THIS WILL BE A SUMMIT TOPIC AND THAT COUNTRIES REPRESENTED THERE HAVE OR ARE DEVELOPING SUCH FACILITIES. SWISS HAVE NO INTENTION OF DOING SO, BUT CAN MEET THEIR NEEDS FOR ENERGY ONLY IF THEY HAVE ASSURED SUPPLIES OF NUCLEAR FUEL. VON TSCHARNER CLAIMED THAT CANADIANS, IN COURSE OF RE-NEGOTIATING THEIR SUPPLY AGREEMENTS, ARE USING THE THREAT OF A CUT-OFF IN ORDER TO OBTAIN PRECISELY THAT FORM OF AGREEMENT THE CANADIANS WANT. IN THE SWISS CASE, THE CANADIANS ARE INSISTING ON CONTROLLING TECHNOLOGY WHICH HAS NO RELEVANCE TO NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. THE SWISS ARE AFRAID OTHER NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS WILL ADOPT THE SAME TACTICS.

2. SWISS FULLY SHARE US CONCERN ABOUT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION BUT ARE FEELING RATHER LEFT OUT AS TO INFORMATION ON ANY WAY OF INFLUENCING DEVELOPMENTS. THE INTEND TO RAISE THIS ISSUE AT IEA  
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GOVERNING BOARD DINNER ON APR 25, IN THE HOPE THAT IEA, WHICH HAS BEEN ACTIVE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY QUESTIONS, WILL BE GIVEN A ROLE. IN THIS REGARD, VON TSCHARNER EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE LOSS OF INTEREST BY US IN IEA. SWISS BELIEVE THIS IS VERY VALUABLE FORUM IN WHICH SMALLER COUNTRIES CAN BE HEARD AND CONSULTED AND WOULD DEEPLY REGRET ANY DECLINE IN US INTEREST AND SUPPORT. HE SAID HE HOPES THAT EVIDENCE OF CONTINUED SUPPORT WILL BE FORTHCOMING IN THE FORM OF AGREEMENT TO HOLD IEA MINISTERIAL THIS SPRING, NOT NEXT FALL AS NOW SEEMS POSSIBLE. HE SAID HE HOPED RAICHT'S INABILITY TO CHAIR APR 21-22 SLT MEETING WAS NOT RELATED TO A POSSIBLE PROBLEM IN THIS AREA.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: IT IS UNUSUAL FOR THE SWISS TO EXPRESS SUCH STRONG VIEWS. THEIR COMMITMENT TO IEA IS STRONG, AS WAS THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FUND. THE QUESTION WHETHER THE

SWISS WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE ACCESS TO NUCLEAR FUEL,  
ESSENTIAL FOR THEIR ENERGY SUPPLY, AFFECTS VITAL  
SWISS INTERESTS. IT WAS NOT EASY FOR THEM TO  
RATIFY THE NPT. THEY WILL BE HARD PRESSED TO  
EXPLAIN THIS ACTION IF ACCESS TO NUCLEAR FUEL IS  
CUT OFF BY THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH POSSESS REPROCESSING  
FACILITIES. DAVIS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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